



Agawam Basketball . . 12

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**20 PAGES**

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## Wireless tower hits a hangup

*Zoning change requires public hearing, re-vote*

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Turley Publications  
Correspondent

A town requirement that wireless tower developers pay experts to study their siting before submitting a plan will have to be re-voted, City Council President Christopher Johnson announced Monday night.

The town code change, adopted in the wake of October's vote to allow a Verizon Wireless tower on Mill Street, should have been sent to the Planning Board for a review and recommendation, Johnson said. Any change to zoning — in this case, the Wireless Communications Overlay District — requires Planning Board input and a public hearing, he said.

"It's a procedure that is stipulated by state statute," said Johnson. "It was an error on my part."

Johnson told his fellow councilors that upon discovering the error, he sent the matter to the Planning Department. He wanted the Planning Board to hold a public hearing and then bring it back to the City Council for a vote to re-affirm approval. Eight votes are required to pass any zoning resolution.

Johnson said he then received a memorandum from the Planning Board stating they would not put the hearing on the agenda until the proper procedure was followed.

Planning Board Chairman Mark Paleologopoulos said the board questioned the legality of the council's vote because the procedure for zoning amendments had not been followed.

Johnson then said he was withdrawing the resolution.

Councilor Robert Rossi expressed disappointment the resolution was withdrawn. Johnson offered other councilors the opportunity to sponsor the resolution and bring it back to the city council.

"I would be happy to sponsor

Please see WIRELESS, page 6



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Volunteers Ben McKierman, 16, and Shayne Castonguay, 17, assist during the FIRST Lego League robot competition on Saturday at Agawam Junior High School, as Delaney Taylor and Sienna Stefanik try to get their team's robot to score points.

## FIRST Lego League tourney gets youths thinking

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Turley Publications  
Correspondent

The FIRST Lego League held a qualifying tournament last Saturday at Agawam Junior High School.

The Lego League has grown exponentially thanks to the success

of Agawam's Rosie Robotics program, which has produced teams of talented high school students during the past couple of years and is expanding its outreach to the younger students in the Agawam Public Schools.

The FIRST league targets youths, and there are more than 20 teams starting in kindergarten

through high school age in Agawam. Seven of those teams participated in the competition on Saturday, with teams from all over the state included in the event.

"The program has really grown during the past few years," said Dana Henry, co-founder of Rosie Robotics and director of the qualifying tournament last weekend.

"This has been a great way for students to learn technology. We have teams competing here from as far as Walpole."

The event is divided in two parts, a science project and a robotic game challenge.

In the robotics competition, students were given time to create a

Please see ROBOTS, page 11

## Live Nativity shows true meaning of Christmas

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Turley Publications  
Correspondent

Christmas is, after all, about the birth of Christ.

The Church of the Redeemer on Maple Street in Agawam brought that moment to life last weekend with a Live Nativity detailing Jesus' birth. There were characters playing Mary, Joseph, the three wise men, angels, and shepherds. The Forest Park Zoo also provided some sheep and goats from their petting zoo to add to the realism of the scene. The event also had small bonfires, Christmas caroling, and hot chocolate.

Pastor Bill Pass says the event is a great way to bring families out to the church and show them

the true meaning of Christmas, and make it fun.

"This is something we started about three years ago," said Pass. "It gets the real meaning of Christmas out there for everyone to see. We have the carolers singing throughout the event and it's just a really nice time with the family."

Pass holds the event outdoors and says it's a great way to connect the church to the community. Motorists passing by the church can see the event, and were welcome to come by and check out the nativity.

Pass thanked all the volunteers that braved the cold weather to play parts in the event, as well as the zoo for the animals.

"The Forest Park Zoo has been

Please see NATIVITY, page 11



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

The three wise men, preparing to offer gifts to the baby Jesus, are portrayed by, from left, Scott Miltimore, Ted Dobek and Robert Rivers, during the Live Nativity at the Church of the Redeemer on Saturday.

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## Boldyga joins colleagues to prevent local aid cuts

BOSTON — In an effort to avoid devastating cuts to local aid to cities and towns across the commonwealth, state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, R-Southwick, joined House Minority Leader Bradley Jones Jr., R-North Reading, in filing legislation to offer a tax amnesty program for corporations. If approved by the Legislature, a corporate tax amnesty program will yield an estimated \$15 to \$20 million in overdue tax liabilities.

"This is a program that will bring revenue that otherwise would be forgone back to the state," Boldyga said. "Cities and towns should not be forced to bear the burden of fiscal deficits. This provides an alternative source for the local aid cuts that were proposed by Gov. Patrick. I applaud my colleagues and Minority Leader Bradley Jones for helping us to avoid damaging funding reductions for our local cities and towns."

The effort to recoup otherwise forgone tax revenue from Massachusetts corporations comes on the heels of Gov. Deval Patrick's announcement that he will seek to reduce unrestricted local aid to cities and towns by \$25.5 million.

The tax amnesty program will be made available to businesses organized as corporations. Limited liability corporations, S-corporations, financial institutions and others will be able to settle long-outstanding tax liabilities without being assessed penalties. Corporations will have a designated two-month window to take advantage of the program. Under a similar proposal put forward by the GOP caucus during debate on the fiscal 2015 state budget, the Department of Revenue collected \$57 million in outstanding tax liabilities owed by taxpayers across the state, far exceeding initial estimates of \$35 million.

## ARE YOU OLD NEWS?



Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to [mballway@turley.com](mailto:mballway@turley.com).

\*\*\*

Last week's photo: Correctly identifying Arthur Gage were Fran Leclerc, Donna Kennedy, Pam Savioli, Caroline Scherpa, Rich Joseph, Diane Mallory and Geraldine Schilling-Nordal



## CHOOSE TO GIVE



Submitted photo

The team of former Democratic state Rep. Rosemary Sandlin and her onetime Republican challenger, Robert Magovern, turned some heads Friday as they rang the bell for the Salvation Army kettle outside Stop & Shop supermarket on Springfield Street, 10 a.m. to noon. "They always assume we were bitter rivals, and we're actually friends," Magovern said. They are also both members of the Agawam Rotary Club, which return with red kettles to Geissler's and Stop & Shop this Saturday, with various Rotary members and other volunteers taking turns soliciting donations for the Salvation Army.

## Museums plan 'Wacky Week' programs for holiday break

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Museums have announced the slate of activities for the upcoming holiday vacation week. Visitors can enjoy a combination of fun activities, planetarium shows and performances by some of the region's best family performers. The offerings also include the popular Adventures in Gingerbread exhibit at the Springfield Science Museum and a festive display of snow globes at the D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts.

"Wacky Week" events kick off Friday, Dec. 26, with all four Springfield Museums open for their regular hours, plus activities at the Hasbro Games Art Discovery Center and shows at the Seymour Planetarium. On Saturday, Dec. 27, the activities and events shift into high gear with hula-hooping fun with HoopiVerse from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in SIS Hall, Wood Museum of Springfield History. HoopiVerse puts a new spin on an old

pastime. They'll have plenty of hula hoops to share and will help find the right hoop for all visitors.

"Wacky Week" is part of the museums' Family Fun series, which is supported by the TD Charitable Foundation. Funding for school vacation programs is also provided by the Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation. MassMutual is the 2014 Premier Sponsor of the Springfield Museums.

Admission is \$18 for adults, \$12 for seniors and college students, \$9.50 for children 3 to 17 and free for children under three and museum members. General admission is free for Springfield residents with proof of address. Regular hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museums are also open Monday, Dec. 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 413-263-6800, ext. 488, or visit [springfieldmuseums.org](http://springfieldmuseums.org).

## Museum announces courses for children, adults

SPRINGFIELD — This winter, the Museum School at the Springfield Museums will once again offer courses and experiential learning opportunities for both children and adults. Registration is now underway for winter courses and trips. Gift certificates are available, and make unique and memorable gifts during the holidays. Full course listings are available at [springfieldmuseums.org](http://springfieldmuseums.org).

All courses are led by experienced instructors in topics tied to the museums' collections and special traveling exhibits. For young people, the school offers instruction in traditional topics like drawing, as well as more unusual and eclectic courses.

Offerings for adults during the winter session are more diverse, and include a wide range of courses in drawing, painting and

creative writing for all skill levels, plus genealogy, culinary arts, and interior design. Many courses are one-day offerings, allowing even the busiest adults to participate.

Adult travel opportunities, from day trips multi-day excursions, are also available. Highlights include day trips to hear the Boston Symphony Orchestra, including lunch and pre-concert discussion, and a visit to the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Home and Library. International travel options include a seven-day painting and cuisine excursion along Mexico's dramatic Boca de Tomatlan coastline in March.

For complete course descriptions, travel itineraries, fees and to register, visit [springfieldmuseums.org](http://springfieldmuseums.org) or call 413-263-6800, ext. 377 or 382.

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# Schools have 'plan to move forward' on threat incidents

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Correspondent

One month after a School Committee workshop meeting about how to handle threats to student safety — such as the alleged bomb threat that disturbed Agawam High School on Nov. 5 — the policy on communicating news to the public is still being discussed in a subcommittee.

One School Committee member went on record saying she was very pleased with how the school district handled the November incident, but was concerned about how soon members of the School Committee were informed, and the way news trickled out through the students and the media.

But after the Nov. 18 workshop meeting, both School Committee members, Shelley Reed and Anthony Bonavita said they were pleased with the discussion and felt they had a plan to move forward.

"We discussed a lot of different things and made suggestions about how and when the School Committee should be informed when an incident like this happens," said Reed. "I still believe the School Committee handled the incident properly. We are just planning to make some changes on the timeline."

Reed says the next step in the process will be for the policy subcommittee to review the procedures for informing public officials in emergency situations.

Included in the discussion was a member of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, who brought some copies of policies utilized by other schools.

"I thought it was a good, productive discussion," said Reed. "This is a tough issue. But we are all absolutely on the same page with the administration about this now."

Bonavita was especially vocal following the incident. He was unhappy that he did not hear about the incident until seeing it in the media.

He is now satisfied with the discussion that occurred and understands some of the legalities the school district is bound to when dealing with a student who is arrested for an incident. When the student is an adult, though, Bonavita says the information will get out to the media much quicker, and School Committee members do need to be informed as soon as possible.

"I believe my concerns were heard by the administration and validated," said Bonavita. "Now, the policy committee has to come up with the language to address this."

Sapelli said a review of the policies and procedures the school district utilizes to handle an incident like this were also reviewed. It was agreed the high school handled the incident properly. Sapelli and Reed had both praised teachers, administrators, and the Police Department for how the incident was handled.

Bonavita says the policy subcommittee will be working to make sure the policy about emergency situations calls for informing public officials, including School Committee members, in a timely manner, but did not elaborate on specifics.

"I think we will be able to reach a happy medium," said Bonavita. "I know the school is only allowed to give out certain information."

The incident involved Ayman Sara, 18. He was charged with making a bomb threat and disturbing a school. He allegedly stated in a class on Nov. 5 that he had dreamed and wished he could bomb the high school and shoot people using an AK-47 assault rifle. The bomb threat charge was dropped recently by interim Hampden County District Attorney James Orestein. He said Sara's comments did not meet the burden of proof to be classified as a legitimate bomb threat. He will still have to answer to the other charge, at a trial scheduled for May 20.

# Golf course committee named

By Gregory A. Scibelli

Turley Publications Correspondent

Three Agawam city councilors will be rolling up their sleeves and examining the business practices of the Agawam Municipal Golf Course.

Council President Christopher Johnson said he has named the councilors that will serve on an Ad Hoc Golf Course Committee.

Per the recommendation of one councilor, Dennis Perry was named the chairman of the committee. The councilor that recommended him for the position, Gina Letellier, was also named to the committee. Councilor Anthony Suffriti was the third councilor named to the committee.

Golf Course General Manager Tony Roberto will be on the committee, and Mayor Richard Cohen named Golf Commission member Dan Michaels to the committee.

Perry has a background in corporate business and he believes his experience will be of benefit to leading the committee. He thinks he can help the golf course become a better operation.

"We are looking to make this golf course run better," said Perry. "We want to look at their business practices and start looking at the things they can do get to where they need to be."

Perry said there some things the course should have been doing. He cited the \$300,000 the town spent last year for new golf carts. "The course should have been replacing these golf carts over time," said Perry. "These types of practices are types of things we will be hoping to address."

Perry also said the committee will work with the auditor to better understand the budget.

"We will be looking at the line items and see where money is being spent, how it is being spent, and how it can be better managed," said Perry.

The golf course has lost money in three of the last four years.

Letellier was very vocal during the fall about her questions regarding the business practices of the golf course. She advocated for a formal investigation. Now, Letellier is hopeful through the process of the committee, she can get the answers to many of her questions about the recent spending practices.

"I am hopeful that I will be able to answer my questions finally," said Letellier. "But I also want to see the golf course be successful. I am very glad Dennis was made the chairman."

Suffriti has been supportive of the golf course throughout the last few months. He is interested in finding out what the golf course needs to be successful.

"The bottom line is we need to help this course be successful," said Suffriti. "I want to see what upgrades the course may need that will help. Maybe there are ways for the course to do more business in the winter with the banquet facility."

Perry said the group will get started after the holiday season, projecting the first meeting to take place in mid-January. He says this is a great time for the committee to get to work.

"We have a chance to evaluate things while golf is not in season and help them get ready for the next season," said Perry. Perry hopes the committee will recommend a business plan with goals for the next one to five years to the mayor.

## Early deadlines for Christmas, New Year editions

Because of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, the Agawam Advertiser News asks readers and advertisers to be aware of early deadlines for the next two editions of the newspaper.

Press releases, submitted photos and community news must be received by the end of the day this Friday, Dec. 19, to be considered for inclusion in the Dec. 25 edition of the Advertiser News. News may be sent to Teri Machia at aan@turley.com. Machia can be reached at 413-786-

7747, ext. 100. Editor Michael Ballway can be reached at 413-786-7747, ext. 102.

For businesses wishing to advertise in the Dec. 25 edition, the deadline to contact sales representative John Baskin is the end of the business day Thursday, Dec. 18. Baskin can be reached at jbaskin@turley.com or 413-786-7747, ext. 101.

For the Jan. 1, 2015, edition, the deadline for both advertising and news submissions is the end of the day Friday, Dec. 26.

## AFD seeking call firefighter applicants

The Agawam Fire Department is seeking applicants for the position of Agawam call firefighter. Applicants must have a desire to serve the community, be at least 18 years of age, have a valid driver's license and reside within the town of Agawam. Applicants will be required to pass a CORI check, medical evaluation and Massachusetts Civil Service Physical Abilities Test (PAT).

Job duties include, but are not limited to, attending Fire Department training as required by policy, responding to call for emergency service, assisting career firefighters and EMS personnel, staffing Fire Department watch desk and apparatus

during emergencies, operating Fire Department apparatus, tools and equipment, performing fire suppression, rescue and medical first response services as necessary.

Previous experience as a firefighter, emergency medical technician or other emergency services provider is preferred but not required.

Applications are available in the Personnel Office, 36 Main St., Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Application will be accepted until suitable candidates are found.

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# Opinion

## Three decades of service

Three decades in the Planning and Community Development office is a long time.

Mayors come and go. Councilors come and go. Developers and businesses come and go. Plans for parks of both the industrial and recreational varieties, six-lane highways and narrow bike paths and human-sized shopping streetscapes, come and go.

But in Agawam, at least until February, Town Planner Deborah Dachos has stayed put through it all.

If it seems like her name is synonymous with civic planning in Agawam, that's because it is — Dachos was the town's first, and so far only, town planner. She has lasted through the transition to the mayoral form of government and four new mayoral administrations. On the state side, she's outlasted six gubernatorial administrations — Charlie Baker's, starting in January, will be her seventh.

The challenges have changed, too. In the 1980s, who had heard of smart growth or the value of a walkable business core? In those days, the push was for suburban development of the many wide open spaces — former farms — of Agawam and Feeding Hills. Today, the focus is more on economic development, in retail and in industry.

Transitioning from one planner to another is uncharted territory for Agawam. As the town's first professional planner, Dachos had to build up her office herself. Her new challenge is explaining it — finally writing down and indexing all the information and institutional knowledge she's built up in 33 years, so that her replacement doesn't have to start from scratch.

Past a certain point, though, that task is impossible. When you lose a department head, or any employee, who has been in office for that long, nobody can hope to replace that level of expertise. No amount of preparation or coaching, not even the presence of Pamela Kerr, Dachos' longstanding administrative assistant who plans to stay on board, will keep a newcomer from making a false step or missing a key bit of history now and then. But Dachos, simply by having shepherded her department with her consistent and professional presence, has laid the foundation for continued success.

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Letters to the Editor must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).



## Learning to let go

One summer day when my children were younger, I took them to a swimming hole. This spot was a rocky area that sloped down into a pool of water. Hanging over the rocks was a rope that you could grab onto, lift your feet and swing out over the water and drop in. The kids wanted to do it but asked me to go first. I wanted to be a good sport but it was really scary. Standing there for the longest time with that rope in my hand I tried to envision myself swinging out and dropping. Finally, with the little darlings chanting "Do it," I just let go of all my fear, lifted my feet, flew out over the water and dropped in. It was awesome; the feeling of freedom was so exhilarating and empowering.

When I meditate on the freedom that Jesus died to give us, I think of that moment, that incredible feeling of letting go. I try and imagine a whole life of being free of everything but Jesus. Having a life free of not only guilt, fear, pride and resentments, but also the things that define me — job, status, looks, talents, accomplishments and anything

else I can stand behind to hold up as proof of my importance. Putting so much work into who I am and what I think I have to take care of is exhausting when all I have to do is let go, that's it!

The New Year is still a few weeks away but I am starting early on my New Year's resolution. I am determined to let go of the worldly way of doing and thinking, and take on the yoke of Jesus. Every morning I will wake and turn my life over to the One who wants to give me freedom and joy. I will lift my feet, swing out and drop into that pool of life-giving water where the cares of this world will disperse and I will know that it is only Jesus that matters. He will direct my path where the battle and the outcome is His.

*Matt: 11:28-29 — "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*

### FAITH MATTERS



MARY ANN MARZANO  
LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTER

## A dog for Mom

*Editor's note: The Agawam Advertiser News is pleased to welcome columnist Jay Berger back to the pages of his hometown newspaper. Berger's column, "Jay Speaks," will return as a regular feature in the Advertiser News.*

For the past few days there has been a great amount of coverage about dogs in all media. Newspapers, TV, magazine articles and even the movie screens. "Dog saves child who fell through the ice." "Man saves dog who fell through the ice." I watched a couple of old "Lassie" movies on TV. "Special days and hours for adopting dogs for the holidays."

Then, yesterday, our son Joe called from Illinois to tell us of his "rescue dog's" latest achievement. "Dad, she hides tennis balls all over the place like Elsa did. She tears apart my piles of leaves just like Elsa did. She wants to be on my lap or in my bed just like Elsa."

The reader probably wants to know "what about this Elsa?" She came into our life on one of Kitty's special birthdays. Kitty, my wife, was across the street visiting a friend. I called the three children into the kitchen and asked for opinions on a special gift for Mom. There was silence until our daughter spoke quietly.

"Well, you know, Dad, you surprised us a year ago with a cat for our home. What about a dog for Mom?"

There was a babel of voices, all saying that idea was a winner. I asked, "Who wants to go to the SPCA adoption center and scout out a dog that would be just right for Mom?" Everyone said "I want to go." "Let's get into the car."

Off we went to the SPCA (which was on Bliss Street at that time). After parking, we went in and asked for the adoption area. We had to answer a series of questions as to our suitability to adopt. We mentioned that a year ago we adopted a cat (we named the cat Tiger) Apparently we had the right stuff for adoption.

All of us slowly trod past each cage holding dogs that were eligible for adoption. They were all sizes, colors, breeds, mixed and otherwise. There was a lot of finger pointing and "Dad, look at this one"; "Dad, how about this guy?" And then we came to cage with three fairly young puppies.

One of puppies broke away from his cage-mates, and confronted us with his tail wagging frantically. "Dad, he likes us. Mom will love her. Can we take her home?"

That settled it. Elsa was coming to live with the Bergers.

Why was she given the name "Elsa"? The children in our family had read the book about the African lioness named Elsa, and then saw the movie about her. The dog we picked out had the same color ... therefore she was to be our Elsa for almost 19 years.

Elsa became a legend in the area where we lived. She was a legend within our extended friends and family. She was a legend in the tennis club where I was a member. Elsa was a legend where our trailer was parked in the summers at Stafford Springs, as well as wherever we went on vacation.

But let me back up to what took place when we brought Elsa home to give to my wife Kitty. Our youngest son, Joe, went across the street to tell her that she had a visitor who was looking for her at home. Kitty returned to our home and was greeted by her gift.

"Mom, meet Elsa! Happy birthday!"

Kitty was overwhelmed by this bundle of a combination of beagle, fox hound, and who knows what else. The tail was wagging and it was a lovefest from the first minute.

In my next piece, I'll reveal how Elsa became a legend.

*Jay Berger is an Agawam resident.*

### JAY SPEAKS



JAY BERGER

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# Agawam Senior Center

## Weekly calendar of events

Monday, Dec. 22: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, Dec. 23: 9 a.m., Knitting Class, Sewing Class; 10 a.m., Computer Tech Club Meets; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Senior Center closes at noon. Meals on Wheels only today.

Thursday, Dec. 25: Merry Christmas. Senior Center closed.

Friday, Dec. 26: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage.

## Lunch menu

Monday, Dec. 22: Swedish meatballs over egg noodles, peas and carrots, watermelon.

Tuesday, Dec. 23: Roast chicken, mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, baked good.

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Meals on Wheels only. French toast, sausage, apple muffins, juice, cantaloupe.

Thursday, Dec. 25: Merry Christmas. Senior Center closed.

Friday, Dec. 26: Baked sweet potato, crushed fish, Mediterranean sauce, rice pilaf, broccoli, pudding.

# Sheriff praises staff for education, training

Sheriff Michael J. Ashe Jr. recently released the following Hampden County Sheriff's Department staff statistics for fiscal 2014.

Officers with college degrees now represent 53.5 percent of the uniformed correctional officer staff of the Sheriff's Department, including one uniformed officer with a doctorate degree and 15 uniformed officers with a master's degree.

Among the total staff of the Sheriff's Department, uniform and non-uniform, five individuals have doctorates and 90 individuals have a master's degree.

During the past fiscal year, 830 men and women took the Correctional Officer Video Test (COVT), a nationally standardized exam in which a job candidate is given 80 scenarios to test judgment, integrity, teamwork and poise under pressure.

Candidates who passed the COVT were given a physical fitness-training test. Those who passed the physical fitness-training test were put through a process of application review, up to three rounds of interviews, background investigation, drug screening and medical exam.

Candidates then still remaining in the selection process were sent as recruits to the eight-week Western Massachusetts Correctional Officers Training Academy administered by the Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

Of the 51 men and women that graduated from the academy and began work as Hampden County Sheriff's Department Correctional Officers, six percent began the hiring process by taking the COVT test.

In the traditionally male profession of corrections, 32.5 percent of Sheriff's Department staff are now female, including five assistant superintendents and four assistant deputy superintendents.

In releasing this year's personnel statistics, Sheriff Ashe said, "I think that both the enhanced level of education of our staff and the 'gauntlet' that an applicant has to survive to get hired speaks to the professional capability of our staff. I am also particularly pleased that not only have we reached the point where nearly one-third of our staff is female in this traditionally male profession, but also that, throughout the department, women have leadership positions, including nine superintendents."

# Roberta G. Doering School Term 1 Honor Roll

## Grade 5:

Amara Agosto, Asa Agudelo, Jenna Alicia, Jacob Backlund, Nina Baranov, Olivia Barbarini, Josiah Bass-Collins, Kannon Behrens, Madison Belmer, Susan Belozero, Emalee Bisson, Ethan Black, Benjamin Blanchette, Colin Bronner, Zarina Bubuza, Aidan Callahan, Virginia Caney, Lauren Carrier, Ryan Casagrande, Sarah Champigny, Anatoliy Chebanov, Cameron Chrisanthopoulos, Liliana Cicchetti, Marisa Clayton, Cameron Cofer, Jaylina Cone, Hannah Cote, Taylor Cotton, Jaden Couture, Evan Cruz, Isaiah Cruz, Mikayla Curley, Aaliyana Dancy, Evan Danek, Allison Davenport, Emily DeGeorge, Gabriella Dickinson, Mia DiLullo, Nicholas Donovan, Adam Dougherty, Alyssa Drumm, Megan Duquette, Angelina Dzyubenko, Ella Eastman, Amelia Ellison, Victoria Felton, Maxwell Florian, Jessica Fox, Sera Gagnon, Samuel Garfield, Livia Gavelis, Diana Gharieb, Quinton Gill, Sofia Giordano, Jenel Gonzalez, Dayne Gottier, Jacob Grisworld, Emily Gulla, Greta Halford, Emily Hall, Edward Henry, Marissa Hermans, Joseph Higgins, Abbey Hildreth, Isabella Hill, Haley Hinshaw, Aiden Holloway, Abigail Holmes, Christopher Johnson, Autumn Jones, Minseo Kang, Allison Kasperek, Patrick Kelly, Shane Kendall, Lillian Kennedy, Logan Kennedy, Leah Kenny, Ella Kinchak, Leon Kinyanjui, Emily Kukharchuk, Jacob Kulas, Nathan LaBonte, Clara Laudato, Igor Lavrenchuk, Aidan Lawor, Rachel Le, Samantha Leary, Elijah Leduc, Brynn Legros, Leila Lendon, Madison Levesque, Olivia Liacos, Nathan Lindell, Rebecca Littlehale, Jack Litz, Angelee Lombardo, Mark Lukin, Benjamin Luong, Patrick MacDonald, Alexander Marino, Vincent Martin, Kaycie McColley, Ethan McGrath, Isabella McGregor, Aidan McKay, Mila Miller, Emma Miolla, Jayden Montagna, Amanda Moquin, Giana Mullins, Jacob Napolitan, Matthew Nigro, Rebecca Obegenski, Kaeli Olson, Melina Ortiz, Emily Ottomaniello, Jaiden Pacheco, Rachel Packard, Jack Patterson, Grace Payne, Amelia Pickett, Hayley Potter, Dayna Rahilly, Jessica Reed, Brooke Rising, Bella Rollend, Kaylee Sanchez, Anthony Sanzo, Jesse Schuler, Kristina Sholopa, Rachel Sigafosse, Nicholas Skorupski, Gianna Smith, Kevin Soto, Melena St. Jacques, Peter Stassen, Ainsley Stevens, Sarah Tayeh, Jessica Taylor, Ashlyn Thomas, Domenic Vecchiarelli, Vincent Wallace, Calista Watson, Dylan Wesley, Ernest Whitehead, Trinity Wright, Syeda Zahoor, Madison Zomek,

## Grade 6:

Abigail Agron, Mia Albano, Thomas Arcelaschi, Jacob Baeder, Emily Ball, William Balzano, Odalys Batista, Kimberly Beaver, Christian Beavis, Samuel Belmer, Demitra Benard, Sofia Blanchette, Trinity Boliski, Joshua Bouchard, Reese Bourgeois, Madison Braska, Delaney Brown, Ryan Butler, Hannah Cahill, Isabella Caputo, Madeline Cascio, Domenic Cecchetti, James Chenevert, Kaan Cicek, Allison Cohen, Dale Consolini, Keeley Cote, Serena Croteau, Kylie Crowley, Gianna Curto, Emily Czupta, David Dagenais, Justin Davis, Hannah Davydov, Lucas Dean, Christopher DeGray, Ryan DelBarba, Nicole Depergola, Marissa Deslauriers, Thalia Diaz-LaCasse, Anthony Dillard, Andrew Dzhendzheruha, Emily Ehresman, Julianna Faillace, Anna Fedotova, Cristina Ferraro, Christian Fisk, Jocelyn Fonseca, Cameron Gauthier, Katherine Gauthier, Samantha Gentile, Alyssa Gentilella, Ryan Gilbert, Joseph Glaessner, Benjamin Gordon, Joseph Goudreau, Julia Hall, Julia Hampton, Ethan Harnois, Daniel Harpin, Mia Hastings, Samuel Hodovanec, James Houle, Ashley Hurley, Vanessa Iodlovskaya, Agnesa Isufi, Joseph Jendrysik, Alyssa Johnson, Margaret Johnston, Lexi Jordan, Jacob Kibbe, Rebecca Kiforishina, Julia Kirezi, Emamuel Kodreanu, Hannah Krafcik, Adam Krause, Emily Landry, Evan Lang, Austin Larrabee, Brianna Lasorsa, Brendan LeBlanc, Nina Liquori, Joseph Lochiatto, Jaron Luke, Colin Malecki, Stephanie Maloni, Anastasiya Mamentava, Frank Marasi, Katherine Matuza, Sydney Maxey, Brenna McAnanama, Meagan McKiernan, Siobhan McMahon, Delaney Miles, Victoria Miller, Sophia Moccio, Morgan Moriarty, Yinnellis Moya, Chelsea Normand, Tia Nuzolili, Laine Page, Brooke Perry, Timothy Polevoy, Joshua Privedenyuk, Adam Radkovets, Antonio Ramos, Meredith Ravizza, Hannah Richter, Mackenzie Ritchie, Jennifer Ritter, Vincenzo Romeo, Sarah Ross, Christian Rua, Sofia Ruiz, Dahlia Ryan, Olivia Salva, Sage Sarrazin, Jackson Schlosser, Sofia Sergeychik, Makenzie Shean, Kiley Sheehan, Anna Shlemanov, Colin Shlosser, Rachel Sills, Summer Smith, Talal Soffan, Brandon Spaulding, Matthew St. Laurent, Emily St. Pierre, Rowenn Stevens, McKenna Strong, Kaben Suresh, Shawn Svoboda, Julia Sweeney, Skylar Thies, Rilee Tourville, Athena Trench, Connor Twohig, Josephine Typrowicz, Kayleah Unglaub, Alex Varenuev, Ella Votakis, William Walsh, Abigail Waris, Jonathon Watson, Joseph Weyant, Emmerson White, Michael Winer, Kaitlin Winters, Lucas Woods, Abby Work, Brian Wyckoff, Sulamita Yukhimets, Jennifer Yusenko, Jackson Zampiceni, Emma Zollo.

# Hearing Test Set for Senior Citizens

Announcement- Free electronic hearing tests will be given from Monday-Friday 9am – 5pm at Avada Hearing Care Centers at 9 locations in Western Mass. Call to find the location nearest to you. The test has been arranged for anyone who suspects they are not hearing clearly. People who usually say they can hear but have trouble with understanding words are encouraged to come in for the tests. The testing includes newly-developed tests that determine your ability to hear speech in noisy environments. Everyone, especially those over 55 who have trouble hearing words clearly, should have a test annually. Demonstrations of the latest devices to improve clarity of speech will be available, on the spot, after the tests. You can HEAR for yourself if the latest methods of correction will help you understand words better. Call for your Appointment

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# baby's first Christmas 2014



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**October 2, 2014**  
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**Grandparents:** Robert & Susan Aspinall, Granville;  
Kate & Tony Albro, Feeding Hills



*Caleb Douglas Gendron*  
**January 12, 2014**  
**Parents:** Stephanie & Kyle Gendron, Agawam  
**Grandparents:** Sharon & Ronald Gendron, Feeding Hills;  
Charlotte & Douglas Walters, Sr., Middlebury, CT



*Dexter Mason Andrews*  
**October 14, 2014**  
**Parents:** Ashley & Chip Andrews of Enfield, CT  
**Grandparents:** Wendy & Gary Delcamp of Southwick  
Mikki & Peter Hinman of New Hartford, CT  
Woody Andrews & Mary Breslin of California

## Salvation Army launches online kettle campaign

Salvation Army red kettles have been an American tradition since 1891, helping raise financial support for critical Salvation Army programs, and now individuals, teams and companies can participate by starting an online kettle campaign of their own.

The red kettle campaigns have grown into one of the most recognizable and important charitable campaigns in the United States, providing toys for kids, coats for the homeless, food for the hungry and countless social service programs year-round. The Salvation Army invites the greater Springfield area community to become a part of Christmas efforts by volunteering and donating to those in need.

“The kettle campaign began in 1891 with a single kettle to help feed the needy in San Francisco, California,” said Captain John Ferreria. “We are proud to provide much needed services made possible through donations, much of which are generated through the kettle campaigns. Now that online kettles are available, it’s never been easier to help join our cause and make a difference in the lives of others.”

Online kettle campaigns allow the public to host a red

kettle digitally, in three different formats:

Individual kettles are personal online kettles where you can invite others to donate.

Team kettles consist of multiple individual kettles. Funds raised by each individual kettle with the team kettle are combined and reflected on the team kettle page.

Company kettles consist of multiple team kettles. Funds raised by each team within the company kettle are combined and reflected on the company kettle page. Individual kettles can also directly join and fundraise for a company kettle without being a part of a team.

The online red kettle campaign is active until Jan. 31. After this date, kettle hosts can still log into the online red kettle to see how much has been raised, but will not be able to receive donations.

“There is no registration fee to participate in our online kettle campaigns,” said Amanda Moyer, Springfield Salvation Army board member. “Additionally, everyone who donates to an online kettle will receive an email acknowledgment that can be used for tax purposes.”

### WIRELESS, from page 1

that resolution,” said Rossi. “I think it would be good for the community.”

Councilor Gina Letellier agreed, and offered to co-sponsor the resolution.

The resolution was originally brought forward in October when Johnson was unhappy with safeguards in the process of adding properties to the Wireless Communications Overlay District in town.

Verizon Wireless had brought forward an application seeking to place a new wireless communications tower at a site at 495 Mill Street. The zone change to add the Mill Street property to the overlay district was approved, but Johnson said he would have rather seen a report from an expert saying it was the best location to place a tower.

The council then sought for the Zoning Board of Appeals to exercise that power when Verizon Wireless goes in front of their body for a variance for the height of the tower.

Following the zone change approval, Johnson developed the language for a resolution that gave the City Council the ability to require the applicant to pay for an expert so the council can make informed decisions before approving zone changes.


“I think the City Council needs to have something in place before it makes a decision on these zone changes,” said Johnson. “There was no plan to add more properties to the overlay district.”

There have been concerns from some city councilors about having too many wireless communications towers in town, as they are considered an eyesore in some neighborhoods.

Agawam currently has five Verizon Wireless towers covering the town. One of the towers is located in West Springfield. The rest are located in various outskirts of town.

### AGAWAM ADVERTISER SEEKS MEETING CORRESPONDENT

The Agawam Advertiser News, a Turley Publication, covering Agawam and Feeding Hills, is seeking a freelance correspondent to cover municipal and school district meetings on a regular basis. Applicants should be familiar with town government and have good writing skills. A degree in communications, English or journalism is not required, but encouraged. The applicant should be available on nights. Position is paid per story. Please send cover letter, resume and writing samples to Editor Tim Kane at 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or [tkane@turley.com](mailto:tkane@turley.com). *No phone calls or drop-ins please.*



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# In the Classroom

## MIGHTY Mechanics enters Phase II

MIGHTY Mechanics, a Western Massachusetts FIRST robotics club, has announced the completion of Phase I “Robot Design” for the 2014-2015 robotics competition. Phase II now begins the real building process, where some students who have never worked with manufacturing tools or computer programs will try to make a mainly metallic robot fit within an 18-inch box. Next they add functionality so that during competition, their robot can successfully perform a series of challenges to score points above the competition.

Assembly includes using pre-fab parts made for robot design as well as raw materials, such as aluminum, plastic and possibly wood. Various mechanisms of the shelf parts will be added, including as motors, gears, wheels, batteries and electronics, in order to add programming, motorization and mechanical functionality.

The MIGHTY mechanics team is in “quick build” mode preparing for its first scrimmage set for Dec. 20. This practice tournament with other robotic teams will help all robotics teams identify robot design changes they can implement in order to be more proficient and successful as they further prepare to compete in official tournaments. Competitions begin locally and proceed to state, super regional and eventually, international levels.

The team’s challenges include driving a robot off a ramp in “autonomous mode,” where the robot is controlled by the programmers’ set of instructions downloaded to the robot. The programmers identify what they want the robot to do. They enter a long series of commands and iterations for the robot to complete in order for it to move about and function automatically.

“I’ve always wanted to learn how to program a robot,” said Nick Charest, first-year MIGHTY Mechanics programmer. “The funny thing is I always thought I’d have to wait until college, but thanks to this FIRST Robotics Club, I’m having the opportunity to explore programming now, which can help me decide if this is a career I’d like to pursue.”

After “autonomous mode,” two members



Submitted photo

**Nick Charest, first-year MIGHTY Mechanics programmer, enjoys learning how to program a robot.**

of the team begin to drive and control the robot’s on-board accessories. They need to precisely position the robot to both knock out a stick, pick up whiffle or plastic golf balls and deposit them into any one of three different height vertical tubes marked as goals. From there the robot can be controlled to move those vertical goals up a small inclined ramp to a platform approximately 10 inches high. All three goals can possibly be positioned there and a final point scoring challenge is to balance the robot on the ramp without it sliding off and touching the floor.

For monthly updates or more information, visit MIGHTY Mechanics robotics club website. Individuals or businesses that would like to help support the ongoing success of the MIGHTY Mechanics can send donations to AREA (Agawam Robotics Education Association), 173 Pineview Circle, Agawam, MA 01001-3420.

Donations are appreciated by the team, mentors and coaches and will support their pursuit of building a robot, participating in competitions that could lead to international matches, as well as provide more opportunities for them to learn about manufacturing, science, technology and mathematics.

## Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

**College Acceptances:** Tara Graham, University of New Haven, Salem State University; Marissa Miller, Western New England University; Viktoriya Maklakova, Bay Path University, American International College; Philip Woods, Castleton State College, Colby-Sawyer College, University of Maine; Patrick Deane, Western New England University; John Colwell, Wheelock College, Curry College; James Macey, Lasell College.

**Bay Path Same Day Decision Acceptance:** Is being offered at Agawam High School on Jan. 14. Sign up with Mrs. Tirone in the counseling office.

**FAFSA Day (College Goal Sunday):** This volunteer-driven program provides free assistance to students and families seeking to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on either Jan. 25 at 1 p.m. at American International College or Feb. 22 at 1 p.m. at Holyoke Community College. Parents should bring their FAFSA pin (www.pin.ed.gov), Social Security

number, driver’s license number, most recent federal tax return, most recent W-2 or year-end pay stub, untaxed income records, bank statement(s), business and investment records and Alien Registration Card (if not a U.S. citizen). For more information, visit [www.fafsaday.org](http://www.fafsaday.org).

**Free SAT Practice Test:** Princeton Review will host a free SAT practice test to AHS students on Saturday, Jan. 10, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students must pre-register at [princetonreview.com](http://princetonreview.com) or 1-800-2-REVIEW, ext. 1065. Postcards have been mailed home to all 10th- and 11th-graders.

**College Applications:** They are past due. See your guidance counselor right away.

**SAT Prep Course:** Princeton Review will host an SAT Prep Course at AHS beginning Jan. 28. Students must pre-register and pay at [princetonreview.com](http://princetonreview.com) or 1-800-2-REVIEW, ext. 1065. Postcards have been mailed home to all 10th- and 11th-graders.

**Scholarships:** See your counselor for more information or an application.

## Agawam Schools’ weekly lunch menu

**AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL**  
The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school’s website.

**AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**  
Monday, Dec. 22: Popcorn chicken bites with dipping sauce, mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 23: Whole-wheat pancakes, hash browns, turkey sausage links, strawberry cup, orange juice cup.

**ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL**  
Monday, Dec. 22: Popcorn chicken bites with dipping sauce, mashed po-

tatoes, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 23: Whole-wheat pancakes, hash browns, turkey sausage links, strawberry cup, orange juice cup.

**AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
Monday, Dec. 22: Popcorn chicken bites with dipping sauce, mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Dec. 23: Whole-wheat pancakes, hash browns, turkey sausage links, strawberry cup, orange juice cup.

## Horace Smith scholarship, fellowship funds available

The Horace Smith Fund, now in its 116th year, has scholarship and fellowship money available for graduates of Hampden County public and private high schools. Scholarships awards of \$10,000 are distributed as \$2,500 annually and renewable each year until graduation. Fellowship awards of \$12,000 are distributed as \$4,000 annually and renewable for two additional years. Students must maintain at least a B average in college.

Recipients are selected on a variety of criteria, including their SAT test scores, class rank, extra-curricular activities, financial need, recommendations and a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance. Fellowship applicants must also submit their GRE scores and transcript. All recipients must be full-time students and residents of Hampden County.

Last year, \$358,000 was awarded to 35 individuals. Scholarships were given to 27 graduating seniors from 15 Hampden Coun-

ty high schools. Four scholarships were also awarded to college students to assist them in completing their education. Four fellowships were given to college graduates, who had graduated from Hampden County high schools.

The Horace Smith Fund was established in 1899 by philanthropist Horace Smith, co-founder of Smith & Wesson in Springfield. The scholarships and fellowships are named for Walter S. Barr, a West Springfield businessman whose widow left the bulk of the family estate to the Horace Smith Fund in 1950.

Completed applications must be received either electronically or be mailed to the Horace Smith Fund at 1441 Main St., Springfield, no later than Feb. 1. Applications are available at local high school guidance offices, online at [www.HoraceSmithFund.org](http://www.HoraceSmithFund.org) or by phone at 413-739-4222.

## Residents attain honors at Williston Northampton

The following area students were among those to be named to the Honor Roll for the first trimester at the Williston Northampton School in Easthampton.

Caroline Wysocki, of Agawam, a member of the Class of 2016, achieved Honors. Noah DeVos, of Feeding Hills, a member of the Class of 2017, achieved

Honors. Michael Lloyd, of Feeding Hills, a member of the Class of 2016, achieved Honors.

Students earning High Honors are required to earn a grade point average of 92. Students earning Honors are required to earn a grade point average of 87.

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# Business

## SolarCity opens W. Mass. base in Agawam

SolarCity, a nationwide solar energy company, is opening an operations center — its fourth in the state and its first in Western Massachusetts — at 604 Silver St. in Agawam. The company assists homeowners in “going solar” with no upfront cost, allowing them to immediately pay less for solar than they pay for utility power. SolarCity takes care of everything from design and permitting to monitoring and maintenance. SolarCity currently serves 15 states and signs up approximately one new customer every minute of the work day, the company said in a statement. Massachusetts residents have experienced some of the fastest-growing utility rates in the country in recent years, and SolarCity allows homeowners to lock in affordable rates to protect themselves from rising energy costs. SolarCity will initially offer service to customers of National Grid and

Western Mass. Electric in the region. SolarCity’s expansion brings a significant number of local jobs — there are approximately 30 staff working out of the Western Massachusetts Operations Center today and the company plans to fill an additional 50 positions for the facility. SolarCity now employs more than 390 staff in Massachusetts and more than 8,000 nationwide. Candidates interested in employment opportunities in Massachusetts can contact SolarCity via its online jobs form at [www.solarcity.com/jobs](http://www.solarcity.com/jobs). Homeowners in Massachusetts who are interested in SolarCity’s services can contact the company directly at 888-SOL-CITY (888-765-2489) for a free, no-obligation solar consultation, or visit [www.solarcity.com/request](http://www.solarcity.com/request).



Submitted photo

Final Destination Fitness is now open at 28 Southwick St., Feeding Hills.

## Fitness studio now open

Final Destination Fitness Inc. recently opened at 28 Southwick St., Feeding Hills. The fitness studio is led by Lindsey Petrangelo, Certified Personal Trainer and Registered Nurse. Petrangelo has been in the health and fitness field since 2006, helping people reach their health and fitness goals. She has worked with all fitness levels and pushes people to their maximum potential with expertise and compassion. The studio offers a full class schedule ranging from the beauty and grace of vinyasa yoga to the extreme mind-

blowing conditioning of Insanity workouts. Its certified personal trainers are also available to work with privately in a one-on-one or small-group setting. Programs are custom fit for each individual along with nutritional planning and everyday support. For a full class schedule, personal trainer bios, hours and information on individual training and the six-week weight loss challenge, visit [finaldestinationfitness.com](http://finaldestinationfitness.com). Final Destination Fitness may also be contacted at 413-896-0891 or [lindsey@finaldestinationfitness.com](mailto:lindsey@finaldestinationfitness.com).

## Easthampton Savings to merge with Conn. bank

EASTHAMPTON — The parent company of Easthampton Savings Bank last week announced it will acquire the Citizens National Bank of Putnam, Conn. Citizens National Bancorp Inc., which operates five branches in northeastern Connecticut, signed a definitive agreement Dec. 11 to merge into ESB Bancorp in the third quarter of 2015, the banks said in a statement. Easthampton Savings Bank operates 10 branches in Hampden and Hamp-

shire counties, including one at 770 Main St., Agawam. The combined bank, which will hold assets of more than \$1.3 billion, will continue to operate all 15 branches, according to Matthew Sosik, president and CEO of Easthampton Savings Bank.

“Given Citizens’ excellent reputation and franchise value in their market area, we expect to operate Citizens’ five branches under the Citizens trade name after the transaction is completed,” said Sosik. “That structure will allow us to remain acutely attentive to our existing customers and communities in the Pioneer Valley, while allowing us to expand and further develop Citizens’ market share. We are very familiar with Citizens’ market area and we are excited to grow through an expansion into the northeast Connecticut and central Massachusetts markets.”

The Citizens National Bank is not affiliated with the Rhode Island-based bank known as Citizens Bank with local branches inside Stop & Shop supermarkets, such as the one on Springfield Street in Feeding Hills. The acquisition of Citizens National by ESB, an all-cash transaction valued at approximately \$51.3 million, has been approved by both banks’ boards of directors, and is contingent upon approval from regulators and from a majority of Citizens National shareholders.

Also on Dec. 11, the board of directors of Citizens National Bancorp declared a dividend of \$0.50 per share payable on Jan. 9, 2015, to shareholders of record as of Dec. 23.

## Legal Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD14A0047AD  
CITATION  
G.L. c. 210, § 6  
In the matter of:  
Rylie Madison McLane  
To: Joshua Layne** any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A Petition has been presented to said court by: **Anthony J Rose** of Agawam, MA **Erin M Rose** of Agawam, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to **Rylie Madison Rose**  
If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney

must file a written appearance in said court at: Springfield on or before ten o’clock in the morning (10:00 a.m.) on: 02/13/2015  
WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: November 24, 2014  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
12/4,12/11,12/18/14

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

## HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to [klanier@turley.com](mailto:klanier@turley.com). Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271. Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com) for more information.

# Public Safety

## POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 317 calls for service from Dec. 9 to Dec. 15. The department made nine arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

### Tuesday, Dec. 9

Eugenio Padilla, 45, of 775 Worthington St., Springfield, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

### Wednesday, Dec. 10

Keith Joseph Henchey, 26, of 27 Anthony St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of trespassing.

### Thursday, Dec. 11

Jeremiah E. Vezina, 23, of 78 Hill St., West Springfield, was arrested on a charge of operating under the influence of liquor second offense.

Scott A. Hotaling, 50, of 81 Randall St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of domestic assault and battery.

rested on a warrant for assault on a family member. Michael J. Skowron, 31, of 13 Channell Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

### Sunday, Dec. 14

Robert Lynch, 39, of 37 Federal St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of cruelty to an animal.

Melissa Jean Jarrica, 27, of 37 Federal St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of domestic assault and battery.

Robert D. Bobskill, 68, of 884 Carew St., Springfield, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

### Monday, Dec. 15

Tyler Rush, 26, of 170 North St., Agawam, was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, possession of burglarious instrument, breaking and entering a motor vehicle, attempting to commit a crime, and larceny over \$250.

## FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 78 EMS calls and the following emergency response calls for the week from Dec. 9 to Dec. 15.

On Dec. 9 at 6:55 p.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street for smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional.

On Dec. 10 at 5:27 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for motor vehicle / pedestrian accident.

On Dec. 11 at 5:22 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On Dec. 12 at 1:55 p.m., the department responded to Sunnyslope Avenue with no incident found on arrival at dispatch address.

On Dec. 12 at 3:34 p.m., the department responded to School Street with no incident found on arrival at dispatch address.

On Dec. 12 at 3:36 p.m., the department responded to Florida Drive for carbon monoxide incident.

On Dec. 13 at 8:23 p.m., the department responded to Valley Brook Road for false alarm or false call, other.

On Dec. 14 at 1:34 p.m., the department responded to Brookfield Lane for public service.

On Dec. 14 at 2:56 p.m., the department responded to Leonard Street to assist invalid.

On Dec. 14 at 5:11 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street to assist invalid.

On Dec. 14 at 4:59 p.m., the department responded to Route 57 Rotary for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On Dec. 14 at 8:56 p.m., the department responded to Suffolk Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On Dec. 14 at 9:12 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for gas leak, natural gas or LPG.

On Dec. 15 at 12:18 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for detector activation, no fire - unintentional.

On Dec. 15 at 9:41 p.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street for alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional.

On Dec. 15 at 9:50 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street to assist police or other governmental agency.

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The Patriot Guard Riders stand tall with their American flags.

# Season to remember



A member of the Knights of Columbus Honor Guard is surrounded by patriotic stripes and stars.

One December day every year, the organization Wreaths Across America initiates a wreath laying ceremony which stretches across all 50 of the United States. The tradition started in 1992 with one man by the name of Morrill Worcester, of Harrington, Maine. Worcester wanted to recognize and honor fallen soldiers of the past and did so by placing wreaths on their gravestones in his home town. Twenty-four years later the tradition continues. The Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Main Street in Agawam was one of the many participating cemeteries in this year's event on Saturday.



First Sgt. Cox of the United States Army salutes the American flag.

Turley Publications photos  
by Kimberly Hatch



A member of the Patriot Guard Riders holds one of the many American flags present during the event.



A sun ray angelically beams upon the face of a young boy during Saturday's event.



Wreaths Across America solider gravestones.



Cadet Airman 1st Class Amanda Leonard shows her respect with a salute.



An enlisted member of the United States Marine Corps, left, and Cadet Airman Basic Matthew Schroeck place a wreath during the public ceremony.



Capt. Brian Freeman of the Civil Air Patrol, the ceremony coordinator for Wreaths Across America, leads the event.



The Knights of Columbus Honor Guard made their appearance.



Mary and Joseph are portrayed by Shelley Pass and A.J. Hernandez.

NATIVITY, from page 1

great to us giving their animals just to add something more to this event,” said Pass.

Saturday’s event went on for three hours. Every 30 minutes, the story of Jesus’ birth is told by a narrator dressed in costume as a shepherd. The story is told with the various players acting out their parts, from Jesus being born in a manger because there was no room at the inn, up to the three wise men offering their gifts.

“It’s how we let everyone know about the importance of Christmas being the day of Jesus’ birth,” said Chris Pyrek, one of the narrators. “I think this Live Nativity is a lot more fun to do than seeing it with the statues. It really brings the experience and the story to life.”

Hank Bastos also served as a narrator. He said the families that turn out often give good feedback, making the experience worth it.

“It’s really great to see the families with their children,” said Bastos. “This is a great time for families and we’re glad to put on such a nice family event.”



Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli  
Above: Hank Bastos gets warm by the fire. Bastos dressed as a shepherd and was a narrator reading the story of Jesus’ birth.



Left: Charlie Kaye, 3, pets a goat from the Forest Park Petting Zoo. The zoo animals added more realism to the Live Nativity on Saturday at the Church of the Redeemer.

ROBOTS, from page 1

robot vehicle using Legos. The robot was attached to a machine that motorized the vehicle. Students had to program the machine to achieve certain tasks on a thematic playing surface.

The challenge? Getting everything together and working in just two and a half minutes.

“It’s really hard,” said Sienna Stefanik. “We have to meet a lot of challenges. Our robot had to be programmed to shoot a ball into a Lego soccer goal this year.”

During the competition, the robot is only allowed to be reprogrammed in a specific area. The tasks can be as simple as being able to pick up and carry an item or as hard as shooting the ball in the goal. Teams battle each other to score the most points on the playing surface. Teams that move on in the competition have the chance between rounds to improve the programming of their Lego robots.

Henry enjoys seeing the competition in the hometown of the Rosie Robotics program.

“This is great to have it here because I live in Agawam and I really believe in this program,” said Henry.

The themes each year, such as education for this year, help students apply their robotic studies to other content areas.

“This year, the students are focused on how we best learn,” said Henry. “The students were required to ask a question, then develop a solution.”

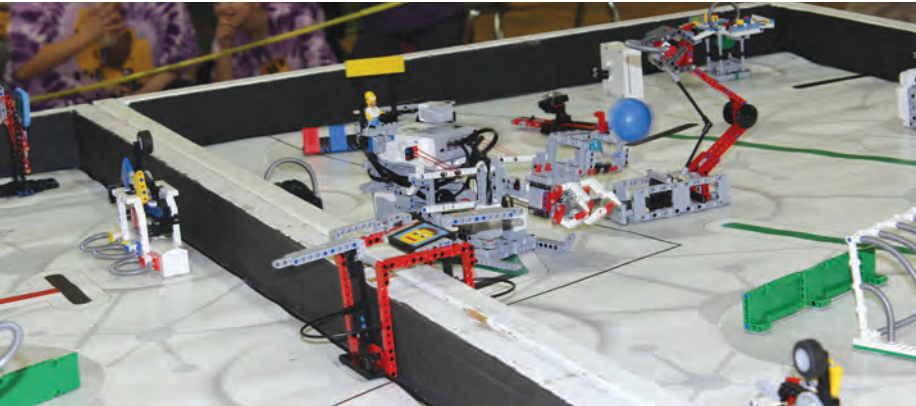
One team, a group of third graders called the Agawam Engineers, developed the best way to teach mathematics in a fun way. They developed a board game that has increasing difficulty for mathematics programs, with players looking to achieve a “college degree” at the end of the game.

“We decided we wanted to make a board game that required you to answer math questions to get through,” said Harry Lunden, 10.

One of his teammates on the project, Christopher Rondinelli, 9, said he enjoyed setting up the game. “We had a lot of fun coloring the board and coming up with the questions,” said Rondinelli.



From left, Matthew Stickles, 9, Allison Boucher, 9, Christopher Rondinelli, 9, Jacob Barber, 10, Aidan Noftall, 9, and Harry Lunden, 10, represent the Agawam Engineers team. The group stands in front of their science project for the FIRST Lego League competition held last Saturday at Agawam Junior High School.



Lego robots try to negotiate various obstacles or tasks on the course.

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# SPORTS

## Bombers too powerful for Brownies

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – They have an aggressive group of players, but inexperience and a lack of proven scorers have hurt Agawam in their first two games of the regular season.

On Monday night, the Brownies were unable to overcome a 15-point deficit early in the game, and Westfield left Agawam with a 62-49 victory.

The loss dropped Agawam to 0-2 for the regular season.

Agawam had a difficult time getting going early in the game, and also found themselves in foul trouble throughout the first half. Agawam continued to try and stay in the game, but Westfield shot much better, and built a 30-16 lead with time waning in the first half.

Agawam was able to get a couple of baskets back, but were limited to just eight points and fell behind 33-21 at halftime.

The Brownies were able to score a little bit more during the second half, but Westfield came out strong in the third quarter to keep their distance from the Brownies. The Bombers did fall off a bit in the fourth quarter, but had a 19-point

lead entering the final period.

For Agawam, Meesha Ohradka led the team with 19 points. Joe Moccio had 11 points.

While coach Dave Federico works with several new players in his lineup, he did have the opportunity to play several players in the game. Of those that got into the game, nine ended up registering points for the Brownies.

Last Friday night, the Brownies opened the regular season with a loss at Commerce, falling behind in the second quarter and not recovering as they were defeated 59-42.

The two teams were in a dead heat early in the game, and the Brownies tied the score 13-13.

But Commerce pulled away by doubling up Agawam in the second 20-10, leading to a 33-23 half-time lead.

Agawam was limited to 19 second half points, putting more distance between them and the Red Raiders.

Alex Sours had a good game for the Brownies, scoring 11 points to lead the team. Ohradka had eight points and Sean Moore and Moccio added five points each.

The Brownies were scheduled to

See **BOYS**, page 13



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Nick Destefano moves the ball up the court.



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Alli Wheeler takes a look at the basket.



Samantha Stratton takes a foul shot.

## Agawam holds off Amherst charge

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam girls basketball team overcame a late push from visiting Amherst, and for the second straight year, the Brownies opened the regular season with a win over the Hurricanes 52-50 last Friday night at Agawam High School.

Christie Mirski and Meghan D'Amours both had excellent games for the Brownies, and seven different players contributed points as the Brownies seek to re-establish their offense this season.

Amherst was trailing by seven heading into the final quarter, and made up five of those points

near the end. They outscored the Brownies in the final quarter, but Agawam made a couple of key shots when they needed them to take the victory.

Agawam struggled a bit from the free throw line, with only D'Amours hitting four shots, but her good shooting and Mirski's scoring would account for more than 60 percent of Agawam's points in the game.

Mirski got Agawam's season off to a good start with a long 3-pointer. She was followed by short shot by Becca Uschmann to make it 5-0. Alli Wheeler would then make a steal on the far left side and connected with D'Amours for a long jumper to make it 7-0.

Up 11-1, Amherst started to

push back a bit, slowly making their way up and building to a 19-12 deficit at the end of the first quarter. Bianca Culhane nailed a layup at the buzzer for Agawam.

Samantha Stratton would hit a long jumper to start the second quarter, giving Agawam a 21-12 lead. She was followed by D'Amours with a score with 6:30 left in the second quarter.

But Amherst would make a comeback from there, closing to within five points 23-18 with 5:01 left. Jess Lingenberg would nail a free throw to make it 24-18 and then followed with a 15-footer to make it 26-18.

Amherst would go on a run after that and hit a 3-pointer late in the

See **GIRLS**, page 13

## Agawam offense in high gear to open year

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam hockey team has had a wildly offensive start to their regular season, with two games and 13 goals in the early part of the regular season.

The Brownies picked up a win and a tie in those two games, fighting to a slugfest draw against Longmeadow with a 6-6 tie last Saturday and opening the season with a 7-1 victory over rival West Springfield.

The Brownies had the lead heading into the waning seconds of

the game against Longmeadow at Olympia Ice Center, but Michael Tabb nailed a late tally to take the game for Agawam.

Tabb scored the goal with a little more than 2:00 left and a 6-5 lead for Agawam. Tabb moved the puck to Matt Pierson and then took the puck himself and scored against sophomore goalie Nick Askins to get the draw.

The goal had come after the teams were deadlocked 5-5 and Chris Breault came up with a goal with 6:24 left in the game.

The two teams tried to put distance between one another, but

See **HOCKEY**, page 15

## Brownies track off to solid start

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam boys and girls indoor track teams got their season off to a good start with their first meet of the year last Friday night at Smith College in Northampton.

The girls picked up a split of their tri-meet held in the afternoon as they defeated Central High School, but lost to East Longmeadow.

The Brownies edged out Central 46-45, but the Spartans upended

Agawam 75-23.

Coach Dan Pryce said he tried several different competitors in different events last Friday, but he is not sure who will be starting in each event on a regular basis.

"It is still a little bit early to tell," said Pryce.

But there are some returning competitors that will have a chance to compete for the sectional and state meets in their respective events.

On the girls side, Caroline Hitchcock is a high jumper and long jumper. Pryce believes she

See **TRACK**, page 13

GIRLS, from page 12

second to close the gap to 27-25 with 1:05 left. Wheeler would get a 3-pointer with about 20 seconds left to make it 30-25 at halftime. In the second half, Agawam continued to keep their distance, but Amherst was able to nip away. D’Amours had a huge third quarter along with Mirski to help Agawam end the quarter with a 45-38 lead.



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Meghan D’Amours sets for a long jump shot.

BOYS, from page 12

face the Sci-Tech Wednesday night. Tonight, Agawam is scheduled to participate in an exhibition game against an alumni team in the Brian Litz Memorial Scholarship Game. The game is scheduled to take place at 6 p.m. at Agawam High School. It is the eight straight year for the game. Agawam will then have some down time for the holidays and will not be back in action until Dec. 27 when they participate in the Connecticut Valley Classic with Chicopee, Chicopee Comprehensive, and Longmeadow. Agawam’s first opponent is Comp on Dec. 27 at 8 p.m. The tournament will be held at Comp this year.



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Joe Moccio looks around for an open teammate.

TRACK, from page 12

will be an impact performer in each event. Another is Alli Stuetzel, who will compete in the 1000-meter run. Sabrina Christie is a contender in the shot put. Pryce says she has the ability to be a surprise performer. He said the same for Katie Martin, who runs the 55-meter dash. On the boys side, the Brownies also started off the season with a 1-1 record. They had the opposite results of the girls teams, as they defeated East Longmeadow, but lost to Central. Their win, like the girls, was a close win, as they edged out the Spartans 45-43. Central boys were dominant with a 51-37 victory. On the boys team, Pryce is looking at Mike Reed to score points for the Brownies in the shot put event. Another key competitor is Cam Czerpak, who takes part in the 1000-meter race among his events. Jason Carleton, Troy Gallerani, and Dalton Drummond are also candidates to score a lot of points. All three are coming off excellent fall seasons in football and soccer. Pryce said the preseason went well for both teams, but is looking for the team to build depth and experience if they are going to contend for a championship. “Our depth is our weakness,” said Pryce. “But we have a strong work ethic.” The Brownies will be back at Smith College for a rare Thursday meet, taking on Longmeadow at 6:45 p.m. The Brownies are then off from meet action until Jan. 9, when they face Minnechaug.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

THANKS FOR A GREAT SEASON



Turley Publications submitted photos

WEST SPRINGFIELD - The Agawam offensive linemen pose for a group photo on the field after beating West Springfield on Thanksgiving morning.



The Agawam seniors get together for a group photo.

COLLEGE NOTES

Monahan named MASCAC

Athlete of the Week

WESTFIELD - Westfield State student-athlete Ashley Monahan, an Agawam graduate, was named Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference Athlete of the Week in track in field for the last week of 2014. Monahan, a sophomore specializing in middle distance, came in fourth in the 800 meters at Northeastern University with a

time of 2 minutes, 24.18 seconds. She is currently ranked 15th on the Division 3 performance list.

Kalaitzidis takes third at Invitational

SPRINGFIELD - WPI men’s indoor track and field runner and Agawam resident Nikos Kalaitzidis delivered a third-place finish in the 800-meter run with a time of 2 minutes, 4.11 seconds on Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Springfield Invitational.

Winter brochure program available

AGAWAM - The Agawam Parks & Recreation winter brochure is now available online at agawam.ma.us.

Information about January registrations for dances and lacrosse can be found in the winter brochure.



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**Villa Rose** – 1428 Center Street, Ludlow. 413-547-6667. Banquet facilities for parties large and small up to 200 people. Showers, receptions, graduations and more. Catering available for up to 1,000 people.

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**The Wherehouse?** – Located downtown in historic Holyoke. The most unusual & interesting banquet function facility you've ever seen! Call today for your appointment, 413-534-3039. [www.the-wherehouse.com](http://www.the-wherehouse.com).

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**UMass Catering** – Premier caterer serving the Pioneer Valley with beautiful views in the heart of the UMass Amherst Campus. 413-577-1234. [www.umass.edu/catering](http://www.umass.edu/catering).

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**White Church** – Get married in an historic landmark on a Blandford hilltop with views. Available for Summer dates. Seats 300. Non-denominational. Bring your own officiant. 413-848-0108. [www.thewhitechurch.org](http://www.thewhitechurch.org).

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**Sixteen Acres Garden Center** – The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center has been servicing Springfield for over 50 years. Our professional staff members aim to provide a service that is unique and tailored to suit individual needs. We provide a complete, high quality range at competitive prices. The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center offer flowers that are fresh daily and take great pride in our work. We have arrangements for all different occasions and for different budgets. For a professional and experienced service please don't hesitate to contact us at 413-783-5883. Located at 1359 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, MA. [www.16acresgardencenter.com](http://www.16acresgardencenter.com).

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**Luminous Glow** – Look your best on your wedding day with the all natural glow you receive from the ultimate organic tan. Luminous Glow offers the best airbrush tanning products available. Call for an appointment 413-525-7500. Visit us online at [luminousglow.net](http://luminousglow.net). 143E Shaker Road, E. Longmeadow, MA 01028.

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**Silverscape Designs** – was founded by Denis Perlman over 30 years ago and is noted for its commitment to showcasing the work of the finest in American handcrafted jewelry & gifts. Silverscape also specializes in custom designs for that perfect piece of jewelry. Silverscape Designs is located at One King Street in Northampton, MA. [www.silverscapedesigns.com](http://www.silverscapedesigns.com).

**Stevens Jewelers & Diamond Gallery** – A family operated company with wholesale and retail operations. Buying gold, silver and diamonds, jewelry & watch repair, custom design & remounts. Personalized engraving, appraisals. Visit us at our NEW location 1501 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA. 413-731-9800.

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Photos by Aim Images and Karen Geaghan Photography

# Obituaries & Church News

## DEATH NOTICES & SERVICES

**Ayre, Anthony A.**  
Died Dec. 19, 2014  
Private Burial  
Colonial Forastiere  
Funeral Home  
Agawam

**Cancelliere, Joseph A.**  
Died Dec. 11, 2014  
Funeral Dec. 16, 2014  
Chapman Cole & Gleason Funeral Home  
Falmouth

**Donoghue, David B.**  
Died Dec. 9, 2014  
Funeral Dec. 13, 2014  
Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home

**Goodreau, Diane M.**  
Died Dec. 6, 2014  
Private Services  
Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home

**McDonnell, Patrick A.**  
Died Dec. 14, 2014  
Funeral Dec. 18, 2014  
Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home

**Solaroli, Helen I.**  
Died Dec. 10, 2014  
Funeral Dec. 16, 2014  
Agawam Funeral Home

**Swanson, Barbara H.**  
Died Dec. 13, 2014  
Funeral Dec. 18, 2014  
Colonial Forastiere Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services  
Agawam

**Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy**

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

## Hanukkah party is Dec. 21

WESTFIELD — Congregation Ahavas Achim will host a Hanukkah party Sunday, Dec. 21, at 4 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church, 487 Western Ave., Westfield, adjacent to Westfield State University.

There will be latkes, songs, storytelling and a potluck dairy dinner. Rabbi Joyce Galaski will lead the prayers and songs.

Attendees should bring their friends and family, along with a menorah and candles for a community lighting of the holiday candles. Also, bring a nonperishable item to be donated to the Westfield Open Pantry.

The cost is \$5 for individuals and \$10 for families. To register, call Shelley at 413-569-1402 or email [whelley2@comcast.net](mailto:whelley2@comcast.net).

## Christmas a ‘blue’ season for many

For those who are feeling lost, have lost a loved one have no one or those who are missing someone, the Christmas season can be a depressing or challenging time. In recognition of those who are feeling “blue” for whatever reason, St. David’s Episcopal Church is hosting a “Blue Christmas” service on Saturday, Dec. 20, at 1 p.m.

This special service will be held at the church at 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, next to the Agawam Police Station. As part of the service, participants will have an opportunity to write the names of people they miss or whatever is making them feel “blue” (in total confidentiality, if they wish) on paper ornaments to dedicate the ornaments at the altar and then hang them on a tree.

According to Fr. Harvey Hill, the rector of St. David’s, the service should last a little under one hour and, as always, everyone is welcome.

## Teen Challenge choir to perform at Bethany

Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St., Agawam, celebrates hope, new life, new future and new purpose as its hosts the Teen Challenge Brockton Men’s Choir on Sunday, Dec. 28, at the 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. services. The public is invited to this free event. For more information, call 413-789-2930.

For almost 50 years, Teen Challenge Brockton has reached, rescued and restored young people and at-risk youth from the grip of drug and alcohol addiction by the power of Jesus Christ. This proven effective, faith-based recovery program empowers real and lasting life transformation for addicted men 8 years and older through spiritual, academic and vocational training.

Teen Challenge Brockton is one of two historic Teen Challenge campuses serving Massachusetts. Located in Plymouth County, it stands as a refuge for drug and alcohol addicted youth who participate in the structured, long-term residential recovery program offered here.

Teen Challenge Brockton is a dynamic part of Teen Challenge New England and New Jersey, one of the oldest, largest and most successful drug recovery programs of its kind in the world. Teen Challenge New England and New Jersey serves individuals and families in six New England states and New Jersey by providing Christian faith-based residential recovery homes for more than 400 adults, and outreach and drug prevention programs to children and youth in area schools and local communities.

Teen Challenge Brockton is privately funded and is supported by the generous gifts of individuals, churches, businesses and foundations. For more information about the program, call 508-586-1494 or email [admissions@tcbrockton.org](mailto:admissions@tcbrockton.org).

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### HOCKEY, from page 12

neither team was ever up by more than one goal as they went tit-for-tat.

Agawam did strike first, with Seamus Curran, a senior, grabbing a tally seven minutes into the game for a 1-0. From there, the tug-of-war ensued between the two teams.

Anthony Passerini also scored a goal for the Brownies, and Chris Breault and Joe Mercadante both came up with two goals each.

Askins, who is looking to establish himself as the goalie of the future for the Brownies, picked up the tie, allowing six goals and made 15 saves.

Askins had a much better game in the opening matchup of the season last Thursday night against West Springfield.

He made eight saves in nine chances as the Brownies trounced the Terriers in their opening action of the season.

Curran had a huge matchup in his first game of his senior season. Curran, who is obligated to play baseball at the University of Rhode Island next year, still has one more season in skates and came up with four goals and an assist. Zach Circosta, Zach Housman, and Elijah Bard also came up with goals for the Brownies.

Their defense was excellent and kept the Terriers away from the goal for the majority of the 45:00.

Agawam received points from 10 different players, which speaks of the depth they continue to build.

Agawam was in action on Tuesday night against Minnechaug. They will have an independent matchup Friday against Wachonah at 5 p.m. and then face East Longmeadow at 4 p.m. Saturday at Olympia Ice Center.

*Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at [gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com).*

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**Sacred Heart Parish**  
1103 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030  
Rectory/Office 413-786-8200

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE**  
*Christmas Vigil Masses: 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM*  
*Solemn Sung Christmas Mass at Night with Organ, Choir, Trumpet, Flute, Violin, Timpani & Piano will be at 10 PM*  
*Christmas Day Mass: 10 AM*

*Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (New Year’s Evening):*  
4 PM on Wednesday, December 31st and on Thursday, New Year’s Day, January 1st at 10 AM

*You are most welcome to join us this Christmas Season to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace.*

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
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59					60				61				
62					63					64			

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Cuts off a branch

5. 13th Hebrew letter

8. “Hair” producer Joseph

12. Giraffa camelopardalis

14. Indicates near

15. Capital of Samoa

16. Roving adventurously

18. Help

19. Deafening noises

20. Spanish neighborhood

21. Portable computer screen material

22. 20th Hebrew letter

23. “Blue Bloods” lead actor

26. Scholarly

30. Raleigh NC river

31. Alongside each other

32. Electronics Support Module

33. Dogma

34. New Deal statesman Harold

39. A corporation’s first stock offer

42. Slender tower with balconies

44. Young eel

46. Deviation from the normal

47. CBS police drama

49. Cliff

50. Resting place

51. Island in Venice

56. 1981-82 Sec. of State

57. Young man

58. Skylighted central area

59. Oily skin disorder

60. East northeast

61. 1945 Crimean conference city

62. Transfer property

63. Used to be United —

64. Daze

Scotland

35. English Univ. river

36. Malaysian Isthmus

37. Soft-finned fish

38. Eyelid infection

40. Fred & Wilma’s baby

41. New \_\_, Louisiana city

42. Tse-tung or Zedong

43. Hindu weather god

44. \_\_ May, actress

45. Hauled laboriously

47. One suspender

48. More peculiar

49. N. Central African country

52. Macaw genus

53. Rhythmic swing or cadence

54. Ballerina skirt

55. Arabian sultanate

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Murderers Leopold & \_\_

2. Southern veggie

3. Henry’s 6th wife

4. Practice fight

5. Dinners

6. Hermaphrodite

7. Centers

8. Fathers (Spanish)

9. For each one

10. SW Belarus city

11. Australian slang for a kiss

13. Ability to begin

17. Short whistle blasts

24. Were introduced

25. Glowing quality

26. Ingest

27. Relative biological effectiveness

28. Footed vase

29. River in NE

Answers on page 6

Buzzin' from Town to Town



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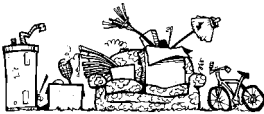
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## Mobile Homes

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**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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## For Rent

**HERITAGE TRAIL APARTMENTS,** West Brookfield now accepting applications. 1 bedrooms starting at \$600/mo. Heat and hot water included. Call 774-200-1520.

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**MONSON- 5 ROOM** cottage on state line. Propane/ wood heat, 1 acre lawn, thermopane windows. Well insulated. Call (413)267-4406. Sat. & Sun Appointments

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## FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

**LUDLOW: 1 PLUS** bedroom, 1 bath, stove and refrigerator, no utilities, no pets, non-smoking. \$550 per month. Call (413)583-6896.



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# Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote “free” events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com), fax to 786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

**Sunday, Dec. 21**

A COMMUNITY LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE and Christmas Carol Sing-Along will take place at 5 p.m. at Agawam Veterans Green. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS will host a “mini tour” at 1 p.m., led by Deena Maniscalchi, DMFA, highlighting “Let it Snow: Winter Scenes in Japanese Prints.” The tour is free with museum admission and secure, free onsite parking is available.

**Tuesday, Jan. 6**

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will host a blood drive for Mercy Medical Center’s Blood Bank from 2 to 6 p.m. at St. John’s Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For more information, call 413-786-3091.

**Friday, Jan. 9**

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL’S APPLAUSE SERIES continues with “The Magic of Daniel GreenWolf” begin-

ning at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center. Free to the public.

**Wednesday, Jan. 14**

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children.

**Tuesday, Feb. 3**

THE TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERTS at Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield will feature Diane Lipari, soprano, Kimberly Figueroa on flute and Miguel Campinho on piano, at 10:30 a.m. Free refreshments. For more information, contact Yolanda Martin, 25 Valentine St., Springfield or John Karalekas, TMMC president, Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield 01138.

**ONGOING**

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. No registration needed.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN’S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein are back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.

A BLOOD CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Agawam Senior Center conference room. A light dinner is served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit [www.springfieldmed.com](http://www.springfieldmed.com), or email [survivorshipprogram@gmail.com](mailto:survivorshipprogram@gmail.com).

A BREAST CANCER SUPPORT

GROUP meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:15 p.m. at office of Maryann Paleologopoulos LICSW, Inc., 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam (at the rotary). Refreshments served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit [www.springfieldmed.com](http://www.springfieldmed.com), or email [survivorshipprogram@gmail.com](mailto:survivorshipprogram@gmail.com).

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30-11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 786-7111 or email [jbrownacc@verizon.net](mailto:jbrownacc@verizon.net).

A CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP meets the third Thursday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the office of Maryann Paleologopoulos LICSW, Inc., 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam (at the rotary). Refreshments served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit [www.springfieldmed.com](http://www.springfieldmed.com), or email [survivorshipprogram@gmail.com](mailto:survivorshipprogram@gmail.com).

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at (888) 613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

## Humason announces job opening for legislative aide

BOSTON — State Sen. Don Humason, R-Westfield, has announced that there is a job opening in his State House office in Boston for one full-time legislative aide. The position is available immediately and offers salary and benefits. The range is \$32,000 to \$36,000.

“This person will be involved with legislation, constituent services, constituent outreach, research, scheduling, press, social media outreach and other duties as may be required,” Humason said. “Preference will be given to any candidate who is from my district or very familiar with my district, for example, a graduate of Westfield State University, and who has experience as a legislative staffer.”

Humason serves the 11 communities of Agawam, Southwick, Granville, Tolland, Russell, Montgomery, Southampton, Easthampton, Westfield, Holy-

oke, and Chicopee (wards 7, 8A and 9A).

The ideal candidate will have an interest in politics, civics, government and public service. They will be motivated self-starters who enjoy working in a professional, fast-paced, public setting. They will be friendly, outgoing and possess integrity and excellent people skills. They must be attentive to detail and have excellent follow-through skills.

The staff person will work with Humason’s legislative director and student interns at the State House, along with the public and others.

Interested individuals should send your letter of interest and resume, a writing sample and a list of references to Chief of Staff Maura McCarthy, Office of Sen. Don Humason, 64 Noble St., Westfield, MA 01085

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# “Need health coverage? Now’s the time.”

Heather Goodhind, Navigator  
Caring Health Center, Springfield

**It’s Open Enrollment time** at the Massachusetts Health Connector. **If you have health insurance through the Health Connector or the temporary MassHealth program, you must submit a new application** to maintain coverage through the Commonwealth.

If you buy your own insurance, you can apply online to renew or get insurance for the first time. The Health Connector is the only place where you can get help paying for your health insurance, and is a great place to compare and choose health and dental plans from leading insurers.

Sign up online at [MAhealthconnector.org](http://MAhealthconnector.org), or call **1-877-MA-ENROLL**, or visit the website to find free help signing up from trained assisters around the state.

**Sign up now for coverage  
starting January 1st.**

